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FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2451

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 ACCRA 002693

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: PTER PREL GH
SUBJECT: GHANA: 2002 ANNUAL TERRORISM REPORT

REF: STATE 201772

THE FOLLOWING RESPONSES ARE KEYED TO REFTEL PARAGRAPH TWO:

IA. SIGNIFICANT ACTIONS TO SUPPORT COALITION AGAINST TERRORISM:

THE GOG CONDEMNED, PUBLICLY AND PRIVATELY, THE SEPTEMBER 11, 2001 ATTACKS AGAINST THE U.S., AND EXPRESSED ITS SYMPATHY, AGAIN PUBLICLY AND PRIVATELY, FOR THE VICTIMS OF THE ATTACKS. IN THE YEAR SINCE THE ATTACKS THE GOG HAS ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS RENEWED ITS CONDEMNATIONS AND EXPRESSIONS OF SYMPATHY. FOR EXAMPLE, HIGH LEVEL DELEGATIONS, LED BY MUSLIM VICE PRESIDENT ALIU MOHAMMED, ATTENDED THE MISSION'S THREE-MONTH AND ONE-YEAR COMMEMORATIVE CEREMONIES, AND MADE VERY SUPPORTIVE REMARKS. THE GOVERNMENT HAS ALSO BEEN VERY SUPPORTIVE IN CONCRETE TERMS AS WELL, FROM INCREASED SECURITY AT MISSION COMPOUNDS, TO HEIGHTENED SHARING OF INFORMATION FROM POLICE, IMMIGRATION, MILITARY AND OTHER CONTACTS. THE GOVERNMENT WELCOMED ASSISTANCE IN THE SUPPRESSION OF TERRORIST FINANCING, AND HELD USEFUL MEETINGS WITH US TREASURY OFFICIALS ON MONITORING FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS. THE GOG ADOPTED FIVE ANTI-TERRORIST CONVENTIONS TO WHICH IT WAS NOT YET A MEMBER IN JULY, INCLUDING THE CONVENTION TO SUPPRESS TERRORIST FINANCING, AND NOW SUBSCRIBES TO ALL 12 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS ON TERRORISM. AT THE SAME TIME, IT ALSO ADOPTED THE OAU CONVENTION AGAINST TERRORISM. IT IS IN THE PROCESS OF DRAFTING LOCAL LEGISLATION TO PUT ITS CRIMINAL CODE AND FINANCIAL MONITORING REGIMES IN HARMONY WITH THESE VARIOUS CONVENTIONS. KEY SECURITY OFFICIALS CONTINUE TO INDICATE THEIR WILLINGNESS TO ALLOW U.S. AIR AND NAVAL ASSETS TO TRANSIT GHANA, OR MAKE USE OF LOCAL FACILITIES, IF NEEDED (AS DEMONSTRATED BY THEIR GREAT COOPERATION IN THE USE OF KOTOKA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT IN ACCRA FOR THE RECENT EVACUATION OF U.S. CITIZENS FROM COTE D'IVOIRE).

IB. RESPONSE OF JUDICIAL SYSTEM TO ACTS OF INTERNATIONAL/DOMESTIC TERROR:

THE GHANAIAN JUDICIAL SYSTEM DID NOT HAVE OCCASION TO RESPOND TO ANY ACTS OF INTERNATIONAL OR DOMESTIC TERROR IN 2002.

IC. EXTRADITION OF SUSPECTED TERRORISTS:

THE GOVERNMENT DID NOT RECEIVE ANY REQUESTS TO EXTRADITE, NOR REQUEST THE EXTRADITION OF, ANY SUSPECTED TERRORISTS IN 2002.

ID. SIGNIFICANT IMPEDIMENTS TO EXTRADITION:

THERE ARE NO IMPEDIMENTS TO EXTRADITION OR PROSECUTION OF SUSPECTED TERRORISTS. THE U.S. AND GHANA HAVE AN EXTRADITION TREATY.

IE. HOST RESPONSES OTHER THAN PROSECUTION:

SEE ANSWER TO ITEM A.

IF. MAJOR COUNTER-TERRORISM EFFORTS BY HOST GOVERNMENT:

SEE RESPONSE TO ITEM A.

IG. HOST GOVERNMENT SUPPORT FOR TERRORISM:

NONE.

IH. HOST GOVERNMENT PUBLIC STATEMENTS IN SUPPORT OF A TERRORIST-SUPPORTING COUNTRY ON A TERRORISM ISSUE:

NONE.

I.I. CHANGES, POSITIVE OR NEGATIVE, IN HOST GOVERNMENT'S ATTITUDE TOWARD TERRORISM SINCE PREVIOUS YEAR:

THE GOVERNMENT ATTITUDE TOWARD TERRORISM HAS, POST 9/11, CONTINUED TO BE FOCUSED AND RESULTS-ORIENTED, WITH CLOSE COOPERATION WITH THE MISSION ON LOCAL SECURITY AND TRANSIT OF SUSPICIOUS THIRD COUNTRY NATIONALS.

I.J. U.S. COUNTER-TERRORISM EFFORTS WITH THE HOST GOVERNMENT.

THE U.S. HAS ASKED FOR, AND HAS RECEIVED, CONTINUED CLOSE COOPERATION FROM GHANAIAN SECURITY FORCES POST SEPTEMBER 11, 2001. GHANA HAS AGREED ON THE NECESSITY TO CONTINUE TO STRENGTHEN ITS OVERSIGHT OF SUSPICIOUS FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS. A TREASURY DELEGATION CONDUCTED USEFUL MEETINGS WITH CENTRAL BANK AND MINISTRY OF FINANCE OFFICIALS ON THE TIGHTENING OF LOCAL FINANCIAL LAWS AND REGULATIONS, AND THE GOVERNMENT IS DRAFTING LEGISLATION TO EFFECT THIS. THE MISSION SUCCESSFULLY LOBBIED THE GOVERNMENT ON ADOPTION OF THE FIVE REMAINING ANTI-TERRORIST CONVENTIONS TO WHICH IT HAD NOT YET SUBSCRIBED, AND HAS ALSO ENCOURAGED THE GOVERNMENT TO REVISE THE LOCAL CRIMINAL CODE, WHICH IT IS NOW UNDERTAKING.

I.K. COOPERATION DURING THE PREVIOUS FIVE YEARS IN INVESTIGATION/PROSECUTION OF TERRORIST ACTS AGAINST AMERICAN CITIZENS/INTERESTS:

ASIDE FROM THE COOPERATION DETAILED ABOVE REGARDING SEPTEMBER 11, 2001 AND THE ENSUING MONTHS, THE GOVERNMENT MADE STRONGLY SUPPORTIVE STATEMENTS FOLLOWING THE EMBASSY BOMBINGS IN EAST AFRICA IN 1998, AND ASSISTED WITH ENHANCED SECURITY FOR MISSION FACILITIES.

I.L. COOPERATION DURING PREVIOUS FIVE YEARS IN PREVENTION OF TERRORIST ACTS AGAINST AMERICAN CITIZENS/INTERESTS:

SAME AS PREVIOUS ANSWER.

RASPOLIC